

1 STATE OF ALASKA  
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
3 DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING  
4 BOARD OF CERTIFIED DIRECT-ENTRY MIDWIVES  
5

6 MINUTES OF VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING  
7 April 7, 2021  
8

9 By the authority of AS 08.065.020 and in compliance with the provision of AS 44.62, Article 6, a  
10 scheduled videoconference meeting of the Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives was held April 7,  
11 2021 and at State Office Bldg., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Commissioners Conference Room, Juneau, AK.  
12

13 **These are DRAFT minutes prepared by the staff of the Division of Corporation, Business and**  
14 **Professional Licensing. These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the board.**  
15

16 **Item 1. Call to Order/Roll Call**  
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18 The meeting of the Board of Certified Direct Entry Midwives was called to order by Bethel Belisle, Chair  
19 at 9:06 a.m. Members present were:  
20

21 **Board Members Present, constituting a Quorum:**  
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23 Bethel Belisle, Certified Direct-Entry Midwife, Chair  
24 Hannah St. George, Public Member  
25 Dr. Dana Espindola, Physician/OB Practice  
26 Rachel Pugh, Certified Direct-Entry Midwife  
27

28 **Absent from the meeting**  
29

30 Tanya Kirk, Certified Nurse Midwife  
31

32 **Division Staff present were:**  
33

34 Lacey Derr, Records & Licensing Supervisor  
35 Logan Bugayong, Licensing Examiner  
36 Sher Zinn, Regulation Specialist  
37

38 **Members of the Public Present:**  
39

40 None  
41

42 **Item 2. Review/Amend Agenda**  
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44 The board reviewed the agenda.  
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46 **On motion duly made by Rachel Pugh, seconded by Dr. Dana Espindola, and approved**  
47 **by majority consent, it was Resolved to approve the agenda as presented.**  
48

49 **Item 3. Ethics Report**  
50

51 No ethics disclosures.  
52

#### Item 4. Proposed Regulatory Changes

Sher Zinn, Regulation Specialist, greeted the board.

The board reviewed proposed changes to Regulations 12 AAC 14.110, 14.130, 14.150, 14.200, 14.210, 14.220, 14.300, 14.400, 14.470, 14.500, 14.510, 14.520, 14.530, 14.560, 14.570, 14.900 as presented by Ms. Pugh and proposed changes to Chapter 65, 08.65.010, 65.010, 65.030, 65.040, 65.050, 65.060, 65.070, 65.080, 65.090, 65.110, 65.120, 65.140, 65.150, 65.160, 65.170, 65.180, and 65.190, as presented by Ms. Pugh.

Ms. Pugh stated, due to legislative and statutory changes some of the verbiage still within regulations is outdated still using the title "certified direct entry midwives"; legislative/statute change updated the title to "licensed midwives". Ms. Pugh went on to state that the title change had been requested for insurance billing services; most of the proposed changes to regulations are updating the license type title.

Ms. Pugh informed the board she had also been working with Ida Darragh, Executive Director of North American Registry of Midwives (NARM); Ms. Darragh had several suggestions which were included in this packet. Ms. Pugh stated that she had also looked at five other states regulations which she had copy/pasted into these regulations. Ms. Pugh went on to state that to update to national standards and offer more protection for licensed midwives, these updates were on track.

Board requested going through the changes piece by piece.

Ms. Pugh reviewed the changes as detailed in the meeting packet with the board. Ms. Pugh informed the board that certified nurse midwives are not considered CPN's as their regulations changed their title to Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APR)

Chair Belisle asked if it is now a standard to issue permits for apprentice midwives, is this just in Alaska, and will it bring revenue to the board.

Supervisor Derr stated the apprentice permit would be an avenue to monitor apprentices and a revenue generator for the program.

The board briefly discussed apprentice permitting, permitting in other states, and services an apprentice could provide. Sher Zinn stated a temporary license for other programs is not uncommon and is used for a pathway to full licensure.

The board and Ms. Zinn briefly discussed historical and current Medicaid /insurance billing.

The board briefly discussed NARM credentialing requirements.

Ms. Zinn thanked Ms. Pugh and asked the board if they approve these changes to let her know. Ms. Zinn also stated she believed the board would be working with Representative Dan Ortiz to move this project forward.

**On motion duly made by Rachel Pugh, seconded by Dr. Dana Espindola, and approved by majority consent, it was Resolved to approve the proposed statutory changes as presented.**

Chair Belisle thanked Ms. Pugh and the board stating the statutory changes should meet the Legislative Audit requirement of moving towards a national standard.

The board reviewed proposed changes to Regulations 12 AAC 14.110, 14.130, 14.150, 14.200, 14.210, 14.220, 14.300, 14.400, 14.470, 14.500, 14.510, 14.520, 14.530, 14.560, 14.570, 14.900 as presented by Ms. Pugh.

The board briefly discussed midwives needing to become CPN's which would require additional education. The board agreed that current/active licensees would be grandfathered in with a set time for those licenses to expire/be phased out.

The board briefly discussed NARM's lack of a lapsed license status and NARM's 90-day grace period; if license not renewed within 90-days a new application is required.

The board briefly discussed scope of practice as related to preceptors.

The board briefly discussed submission of knowledge, skills, and job analysis documentation. Supervisor Derr assured the board that document changes or creations were doable to meet changes.

Ms. Zinn stated when a program changes basic requirements for licensure, currently license individuals should be grandfathered in under previous licensure requirements as these individuals have already met set requirements to obtain licensure. Ms. Zinn stated the board should keep grandfathering verbiage in mind through this process and especially when speaking with bill sponsors. Ms. Zinn assured the board that the legislative body has attorneys that will assist in drafting statutory/legislative verbiage.

The board briefly discussed self-study/online education and agreed to remove current limitations.

Supervisor Derr suggested the board consider the use of "synchronous" which allows for live interactive online courses or seminars. Supervisor Derr informed the board that several other programs within the division allow live synchronous interactive courses.

The board briefly discussed synchronous courses and agreed this would allow more pathways for education.

The board briefly discussed prenatal care, testing, care and screening.

Ms. Zinn reminded the board that whatever verbiage the board may not want to include can be pulled and if needed new sections/subsections can be created.

Ms. Pugh asked who the board would talk to regarding a CDM administering medication. Ms. Zinn responded the board would need to verify they had statutory authority to use a specific medication; if statute allowed, regulatory verbiage could be added.

The board briefly discussed administering medication and agreed this would need to be updated through statutory change. Ms. Zinn informed the board, when drafting this type of language, the full name of the medication and not an acronym, would be required.

Dr. Espindola stated the medication is Tranexamic acid, which is not a controlled substance and is used for hemorrhaging. The board briefly discussed medications.

The board briefly discussed their code of ethics last updated April 1994.

Ms. Zinn informed the board that many of the proposed regulatory changes would need to wait for the final legislative process and should be re-reviewed once the legislative process concluded. Ms. Zinn

157 stated some of the proposed regulation changes may not be contingent on statute change and she  
158 would carefully review the proposed regulation changes to make that determination.

159  
160 The board briefly discussed NARM licensing and requirements for renewal of Alaska CDM licenses. Ms.  
161 Zinn informed the board other programs also require current national licensure/certification for  
162 renewal; which the Alaska licensee must prove they were current with during the concluding licensing  
163 period.

164  
165 The board completed their review of proposed regulation changes and asked Supervisor Derr what their  
166 next step would be. Supervisor Derr stated, based on Ms. Zinn's statement that legislation would need  
167 to be passed and statutes updated in conjunction with regulations, she would meet with Ms. Zinn to  
168 discuss the proposed regulatory changes and would keep the board updated. Supervisor Derr stated  
169 that once the legislation had passed a draft of this project would be presented to the board and they  
170 could then move forward with the public noticing process.

171  
172 The board thanked Supervisor Derr.

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174 **Item 5. Board Administrative Business**

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176 Supervisor Derr stated it was Annual Report time and by addressing legislation, statute, and regulatory  
177 changes the board had met the Sunset Audit recommendations.

178  
179 Supervisor Derr informed the board she would email them the shell copy of the current Annual Report  
180 so they could begin preparing board required submissions. Supervisor Derr reviewed board required  
181 submissions, Goals & Objectives, Narrative Statement, Budget Recommendations (including travel and  
182 national organization membership(s)), regulatory & legislative recommendations.

183  
184 Supervisor Derr asked Chair Belisle if she was prepared to be the lead board person for the report. Chair  
185 Belisle stated she was willing to take on this roll.

186  
187 Chair Belisle informed the board that their Sunset Audit had passed through Finance and is moving onto  
188 the next round of reviews in the Senate.

189  
190 Supervisor Derr reminded the board that confirmation/reconfirmation hearings were also scheduled for  
191 today and Hannah St. George was on the schedule. Ms. St. George stated she was on the schedule and  
192 would be in attendance.

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194 *The Board adjourned at 10:23 a.m.*

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196 Respectfully submitted:

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199 \_\_\_\_\_  
200 Lacey Derr, Records & Licensing Supervisor

201 Approved:

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203 \_\_\_\_\_  
204 Bethel Belisle, CDM, Chairperson  
205 Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives

206  
207 Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
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